Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure

Plan for 2018-19

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Government of Saskatchewan

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Statement from the Minister

The Honourable David Marit

Minister of Highways and Infrastructure

I am pleased to present the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure Plan for 2018-19.

Government Direction and Budget for 2018-19 is focused on keeping Saskatchewan On Track by controlling spending, delivering high quality services for Saskatchewan people, keeping our economy strong, and returning to balance in 2019-20.

The 2018-19 Highways and Infrastructure budget continues our government's investments in the enhancement of the provincial highway network through rural highway upgrades and major infrastructure projects around our growing cities. The ministry will continue to invest in the Regina Bypass and the Warman/Martensville interchanges, both scheduled to open in 2019.

The ministry will focus on partnerships with municipalities to provide roads that meet local demand and provide reliable access. Focusing on innovation, the ministry will work to preserve and maintain highways. Investments in safety and planning for the future prosperity of our province will continue.

Investments in highways and infrastructure support the economy by improving access to local and international markets. This is represented in the Ministry's Vision: Transportation-Connecting Saskatchewan to the World. Our investments in roads and bridges will ensure that we continue to address the infrastructure deficit while working towards a sustainable transportation system. Our plan improves transportation safety while exploring opportunities for future projects that reduce congestion and enhance transport routes throughout our province. These projects provide the foundation for future growth, which will enhance the quality of life for all people of Saskatchewan and continue to keep Saskatchewan on track.

Response to Government Direction

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to keeping the province On Track through prudent fiscal management. We will succeed by spending wisely, supporting economic growth, and ensuring services are sustainable.

This focus will continue to advance Government toward the realization of Saskatchewan's Vision and goals.

Saskatchewan's Vision

"... to be the best place in Canada – to live, to work, to start a business, to get an education, to raise a family and to build a life."

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges of growth

Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive and responsible government

Saskatchewan's Vision and goals provide the framework for ministries, agencies and partners to align their programs and services and meet the needs of Saskatchewan's residents.

All ministries and agencies will report on progress in their 2018-19 annual reports.

Operational Plan

Mandate Statement

The ministry manages and provides for the future development of an integrated provincial transportation system which supports economic growth and prosperity for Saskatchewan. Our infrastructure investments will be guided by strategic transportation policy and incorporate operating and maintenance practices which promote the safe and efficient movement of people and goods.

Mission Statement

To provide a safe, reliable transportation system that supports Saskatchewan's growth agenda and quality of life. We strive to deliver innovative sustainable infrastructure to serve the needs of the people of Saskatchewan.

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges of growth

Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive and responsible government

Strategic priority in support of the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth:* Increasing Transportation Safety - Continue to build safer communities.

Ministry Goal

Improved safety

Strategy

Reduce collisions on the transportation system through targeted safety improvements at intersections and on high-traffic corridors.

Key Actions

- Deliver the twinning and passing lane strategy
  - Plan for capacity enhancements on high traffic highways, including:
    - Highway 5 corridor improvements between Highways 2 and 316;
    - passing lanes on Highway 9 and 10 between Melville and Canora;
    - passing lanes on Highway 7 from Rosetown to the Alberta border; and,
    - Highways 6 and 39 corridor improvements between Corrine and Estevan.
  - Construct twinning and passing lanes to improve traffic flow and increase safety, including:
    - continued twinning on Highway 7 from east of Vanscoy to Delisle for 17.5 km;
    - two sets of passing lanes on Highway 4 between North Battleford and Cochin; and,
    - two sets of passing lanes on Highway 6 between the Regina Bypass and Corrine.
- Deliver the Pavement Marking Program to provide visible pavement lines for the safe directional flow of traffic.
- Deliver the Signing Stewardship Program to rehabilitate, replace and install new signs to keep the overall condition of the approximately 119,000 regulatory, warning, guide and information signs on the provincial network in good repair.
- Reduce fatalities and injuries from collisions through implementing a road safety strategy. The strategy will have a focus on intersections, dark driving conditions, and single-vehicles running off the road. Examples of methods to address the focus areas of the strategy are the reflectivity of pavement marking and signing, lighting improvements, and turning lane improvements.
- In partnership with the Highway 16 Saskatoon to Wynyard Safe Corridor Alliance, work to identify and deliver future safety improvements between Saskatoon and Wynyard.
- Invest $7 million through the Safety Improvement Program to reduce the frequency and severity of collisions, including:
  - access improvements on Highway 5 at Muenster;

- access improvements on Highway 3 at Star City; and,
- constructing and raising cable barriers at locations on Highway 56 at Echo Lake.

- Deliver public crossing and provincial rail inspection programs for provincially regulated rail lines and shortline companies to promote safety and recommend repairs.
- Train and equip commercial vehicle enforcement officers to participate as members of the Protection and Response Team (PRT) to aid in the reduction of crime in rural Saskatchewan.
- Deliver commercial vehicle safety, weight and dimension regulations education programming for the trucking industry to assist in increasing regulatory compliance.
- Participate in "Road Check" and "Operation Air Brake" annual international safety inspection events, deliver Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) inspections, and plan strategic enforcement activities to reduce commercial vehicle safety violations.

Performance Measures

Reduction in fatality and injury collisions.
Target = five-year rolling average of 10.6 collisions per 100 million vehicle kilometres traveled.

This measure uses a five-year rolling average collision rate for fatality and injury collisions to track highway safety over time. The ministry aims to reduce the rate through operations and maintenance practices and infrastructure safety improvements delivered through the road safety strategy. Focus areas of the safety strategy are incidents relating to dark driving conditions, intersections, single-vehicles running off the road and wildlife.

Per cent of shortline rail tracks inspected over a three-year cycle.
Target = 100 per cent by March 31, 2021.

There are 2,131 km of shortline track in the province. The ministry inspects rail lines on a three-year cycle to ensure the safe movement of rail cars, and recommends repairs to the shortline companies.

Per cent of shortline public grade crossings inspected on a four-year cycle.
Target = 100 per cent by March 31, 2022.

There are 1,215 shortline public grade crossings. A crossing is where the rail line intersects with a road. The ministry inspects the crossings on a four-year cycle to ensure the safe movement of rail cars, and recommends repairs to the shortline companies.

Out of Service Rate from Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance level 1 inspections through the Roadcheck blitz.

The ministry delivers commercial vehicle enforcement activities all year to influence regulation compliance. The goal is to reduce the non-compliance of commercial trucks. CVSA offers a uniform methodology for inspecting large vehicles and criteria under which unsafe vehicles and drivers are removed from the road.

Each year, along with the other Canadian provinces and territories, Saskatchewan participates in Roadcheck, a 72-hour concentrated safety inspection blitz held across Canada. Roadcheck delivers a sample of the commercial vehicle and driver safety on the highway.

Strategy

Reduce safety related injuries by promoting a safety culture in the workplace.

Key Actions

- Communicate to the public, through the annual Work Zone and Snow Zone campaigns, safe driving practices to reinforce slowing to 60km/h in work zones and when approaching snow plows.
- Identify and reinforce safe practices and incident prevention through proactive occupational health and safety management.
- Reduce the risk of railway safety related incidents by collecting and auditing safety management plans which verify shortline and industrial railway companies are meeting provincial and federal safety regulations.

- Work with the Aviation Advisory Committee and the private sector in Saskatchewan to deliver safety related improvements for aviation services.

Performance Measures

Number of safety incidents in work zones and snow zones.
Target = 10 per cent reduction

This is a measure of the incidents occurring in ministry work zones and snow zones on an annual basis, with the goal of incident elimination. Incidents are an event where there was an actual or potential fatality, injury or damage to property. A work zone is a controlled and marked area where active work is ongoing, typically noted with work zone signage. Snow zone incidents are between the public and a snow plow.

Per cent of workplace occupational health and safety (OHS) inspections that meet OHS requirements.
Target = 100 per cent

This is a measure of the ministry's commitment to providing safe workplaces. The ministry has over 100 workplaces throughout the province including equipment buildings, offices, airports and ferries.

Per cent of shortline and industrial rail lines with safety management plans.
Target = 100 per cent of plans on file with the ministry by March 31, 2022.

Safety management plans are used by industry and the ministry to ensure that procedures are in place to prevent or address rail incidents. To obtain an operating licence from the Highway Traffic Board, it is a requirement of shortline and industrial rail lines to have a safety management plan.

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges of growth

Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive and responsible government

Strategic priority in support of the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth*: Supporting trade and investment - Economic corridors and gateways facilitate growth in export and trade and the movement of goods and services locally, regionally, and internationally.

Ministry Goal

Efficient travel for trucks and commuters

Strategy

Reduce congestion by investing in new infrastructure around major cities and on high-traffic corridors.

Key Actions

- Build phase II of the Regina Bypass from Highway 33 to Highway 11 for opening in late 2019.
- Improve safety and efficiency through the construction of interchanges at Warman and Martensville, opening in Fall 2019.
- Continue functional planning for the future traffic demand around Saskatoon to reduce the amount of land currently restricted for development.
- Deliver a Highway 7 Kindersley corridor study to identify future operational and safety improvements.

- Identify projects that provide capacity, safety and efficiency improvements and make recommendations for applications to the federal government for project funding.

Performance Measures

Travel time around major urban congested areas.

Investments around urban centres are important for ensuring the safe free-flow of traffic from commercial carriers and commuters. This measure will establish data to be used as reference for the ministry's efforts, over the long term, in addressing the growth of urban census metropolitan areas. It will establish a baseline for future targets.

Complete projects approved in the New Building Canada Fund – Provincial-Territory Infrastructure Component by 2024.

In Saskatchewan, many improvements are required to the provincial highway infrastructure in order to improve the road network for the citizens of the province. This measure ensures the accountability of the government in utilizing all of the federally designated funding to provide the best value. The ministry was approved for $193.0 million in federal funding with projects to be completed by 2024.

Per cent availability of the highway network.

This measure is used to determine highway network reliability. It is a measure of kilometers closed for various reasons, including extreme weather and collisions.

Strategy

Improve the flow of goods in the supply chain by reducing impediments in the regulatory environment.

Key Actions

- Identify trade and transportation regulation and infrastructure enhancements by working with national and regional task forces, along with provincial jurisdictions, to improve commodity trade efficiency and interjurisdictional truck movement.
- Support regulatory improvements to provide safe mobility and strengthen economic outcomes for Saskatchewan citizens and businesses.
- Work with the trucking industry to incorporate new and existing technologies and configurations that provide efficiencies and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Collaborate with SaskPower, the Ministry of Trade and Export Development and other jurisdictions to provide a network of high-clearance corridors which facilitate the movement of large loads.

Performance Measure

Utilization by industry of high clearance corridors.

The high clearance corridors provide efficient routes to haul oversized items through the province. This measure is collected from SGI permitting data and provides a high-level indicator of activity on corridors.

Per cent of bridges without a legal load restriction.

The ministry is responsible for 727 bridges on the highway network. This is a measure of the number of bridges on the highway network that are posted to less than legal loading for the road segment. Having a legal load restriction means that the bridge is limiting the vehicle load configuration on this segment of the road and potentially inhibiting the flow of goods.

Per cent of single trip permits issued within 24 hours.

Single trip permits are required for vehicle configurations that exceed vehicle weight and dimension regulations for a particular

route. Permitting is offered to ensure efficient travel for commercial vehicles while protecting road infrastructure assets. This is a measure of the efficiency of the permitting system to ensure that industry and commerce is receiving quality service.

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people | Meeting the challenges of growth | **Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people** | Delivering responsive and responsible government

Strategic priority in support of the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth*: Enhancing quality of life - Transportation infrastructure is the foundation for economic growth and improved quality of life.

Ministry Goal

Improved road conditions

Strategy

Improve level of service through defined standards for provincial highways.

Key Actions

- Implement level of service (LOS) standards for summer and winter maintenance program delivery which incorporates the ministry's responsiveness to surface failures and operational requirements.
- Provide overnight road condition surveillance and minor maintenance on high volume highways during winter months.
- Protect road infrastructure through delivery of weight enforcement activities on commercial vehicles.
- Provide pavement treatments to renew or increase the longevity of the assets to meet life cycle requirements.
  - Deliver 280 km of repaving of highways, which renews the assets life cycle.
  - Deliver 140 km of medium pavement treatments, which enhance the condition and longevity.
  - Deliver 280 km of light pavement treatments, which seal the surface from moisture and increase longevity.
- Deliver innovative surface treatment projects on low volume highways as part of completing 100 km of upgrades to rural provincial highways, including:
  - Highway 4 from Val Marie to Cadillac; and,
  - Highway 51 near Springwater.
- Improve highway segments with flooding related risks, including:
  - Highway 1 near Wolseley – culvert installations;
  - Highway 9 erosion and landslide repair north of Whitewood;
  - Highway 11 erosion repair near Lumsden; and,
  - Highway 913 Whelan Bay access relocation.
- Through the Urban Highway Connector Program, invest in urban highway projects to improve efficiency on provincial highways through major urban centres including:
  - the landslide repair and resurfacing of Highway 363 within the city limits of Moose Jaw;
  - the rehabilitation of the Highway 6 service road in Melfort; and,
  - the rehabilitation of 2nd Avenue West in Prince Albert.
- Extend the service life and ensure the adequacy of drainage structures:
  - replace or repair aging culvert and wood box drainage structures;

- replace 24 bridges with new bridges or culverts; and,
- make major repairs on six bridges.

- Invest $60.7 million to improve and maintain infrastructure in northern Saskatchewan.

Performance Measures

Per cent of pavements in fair to very good condition on provincial highways.
Target = 90 per cent

The ministry maintains over 15,000 kilometers of paved highway. The ministry uses measures that incorporate vibration, noise, bumps and dips in the road to measure its condition. This information determines when repaving or other pavement preservation treatments are needed.

Number of innovative surface treatments on low volume roads.
Target = two projects

The ministry is piloting alternative surface treatment options in order to provide value and deliver a highway surface that meets local demand and provides reliable access. Delivering surface treatments that are not an upgrade to a primary weight pavement allows the ministry to address more kilometers of highways with an appropriate surface for the traffic demand.

Number of bridges upgraded.
Target = 30 bridges for 2018-19

The ministry uses a condition index to rate the state of its bridges. The number of bridges upgraded effects the bridge condition index by improving a bridge's condition or replacing a bridge with a new bridge or culvert.

Number of bridges inspected.
Target = 100 per cent every two years

Bridges are an important part of the network's usability. As the highway network ages, it is important to ensure that bridges are in good condition.

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

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Delivering responsive and responsible government

Strategic priority in support of the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth*: Efficiently managing the transportation system – Integrated planning of initiatives at the provincial, regional, and municipal level that result in future population and private sector growth.

Ministry Goal

Integrated Planning

Strategy

Define a sustainable transportation system by identifying solutions through different modes of transport (air, rail, road and water) to address needs.

Key Actions

- Support community airports through the Community Airport Partnership program, which results in a $1.4 million investment for improvements to small airports.
- Continue to support industry in expanding its use of rail systems.
- Utilize rail shipping data to understand how commodity movement is adapting to changes in the Canada Transportation Act in order to influence market competitiveness.
- Support municipal and provincial transportation system integration to better utilize the existing network to achieve economic growth and quality of life outcomes.
  - Invest $14 million through the Municipal Roads for the Economy Program (MREP) – a partnership agreement with the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities – for municipal road and bridge enhancement and preservation, including the Clearing the Path program and the Heavy Haul-High Volume program.
  - Work with rural municipalities to provide alternate truck routes on municipal roads through Strategic Partnership Program agreements to help preserve TMS highways.
  - Develop new partnership agreements with municipalities for traffic management and road construction to optimize the utilization of existing infrastructure.
- Incorporate airport classification into an updated provincial airport maintenance manual in order to provide defined levels of service to the aviation industry.
- Provide ferry connections at key municipal road crossings for local travelers and commuters.
  - Repair and upgrade the landings at the Riverhurst ferry.

Performance Measures

Per cent availability of provincially operated ferries.

This measure shows the reliability of provincially operated ferries. It is a measure of scheduled availability against time lost.

Per cent availability of airport services at the 17 provincial airports.

This measure shows the reliability of the 17 provincially operated airports. It is a measure of scheduled availability against time lost.

Per cent of Thin Membrane Surface highways managed using partnerships.

This measure reflects the strategic partnerships that are assisting the ministry in maintaining reliable access. These partnerships with municipalities are to utilize municipal roads to route large vehicles that would otherwise damage the provincial highway.

Strategy

Assess transportation demand through engagement with citizens and stakeholders.

Key Actions

- Work with industry and other stakeholders to identify network gaps and solution options that result in a long-term transportation outlook.
- Contribute to the direction of Prairie Resilience: A Made-in-Saskatchewan Climate Change Strategy, with focus on transportation and related infrastructure.
- Develop an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) plan to advance the use of field devices and new technologies in project and service delivery. This will be a long term strategy for the use of ITS devices such as cameras, variable message signs, road weather information systems, traffic counters as well as emerging technologies.
- Continue to provide accurate, timely and reliable road information for travelers through the Highway Hotline.

- Publish traffic volume maps and biennial travel books with data collected from over one thousand locations annually for public and ministry planning.
- Provide guidance to Area Transportation Planning Committees as they develop transportation plans to better support a provincial transportation network outlook.

Performance Measures

Number of Highway Hotline website visits and calls.

Measuring website visits and calls illustrates the public's demand for information on weather-related highway conditions, closures and construction zones.

Travel in million vehicle kilometres.

The annual travel on the provincial highway system is an indicator of changes in demand.

Strategy

Improve ministry processes through understanding and streamlining service delivery practices to build organizational capacity.

Key Actions

- Continuously improve project delivery by:
  - Engaging with industry stakeholders and continuing to work together to promote innovation, collaboration and solutions in the effective delivery and quality of construction projects;
  - Expanding the use of alternative procurement models, specifically the Design-Build procurement model;
  - Continuing the implementation of project management system software to provide systems enhancement;
  - Further developing the best value approach for the evaluation and award process of consulting services; and,
  - Utilizing the best value approach for the ministry's construction award activities including a contractor performance (project quality and timeliness) rating process.
- Publish additional information for the public that outlines the land acquisition process and compensation guidelines that improve the landowner's experience when engaging with ministry staff.
- Develop a customer service centre that will be the ministry's first point of contact for public inquiries.
- Foster a culture of innovation that empowers employees to collaborate through the use of idea and knowledge management processes.
- Review the ministry's fleet for opportunities to reduce fuel usage and carbon emissions, including the potential for incorporating technologies that allow for ongoing idle monitoring and reporting.
- Implement environmental protection planning that will streamline environmental approvals while ensuring compliance with federal and provincial regulations.

Performance Measures

Number of innovation ideas submitted by ministry employees.

Developing a culture of innovation will assist the ministry in achieving its goals to provide quality citizen-centred service that is efficient and makes the best use of resources. This measure is a display of the ministry's approach in encouraging innovation in the everyday practices of ministry employees.

Customer Satisfaction in their interaction with the ministry.

Citizen-centred service is the primary goal of the ministry's strategic direction. Delivering quality service to the people of Saskatchewan and assisting them to find the answers they are looking for is important. This is a measure of the ministry's interaction with people in the delivery of services.

Highlights

2018-19 Budget Highlights:

The Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure 2018-19 budget is $924.5 million, including a capital investment of $672.9 million. This budget invests in improved safety, continued maintenance of the network and ensuring Saskatchewan's economy remains connected to markets across Canada and around the world. In 2018-19, the ministry will continue government's focus on the integrated planning of transportation and the economic growth and improved quality of life for Saskatchewan's people.

This budget continues to preserve and improve the provincial highway system through:

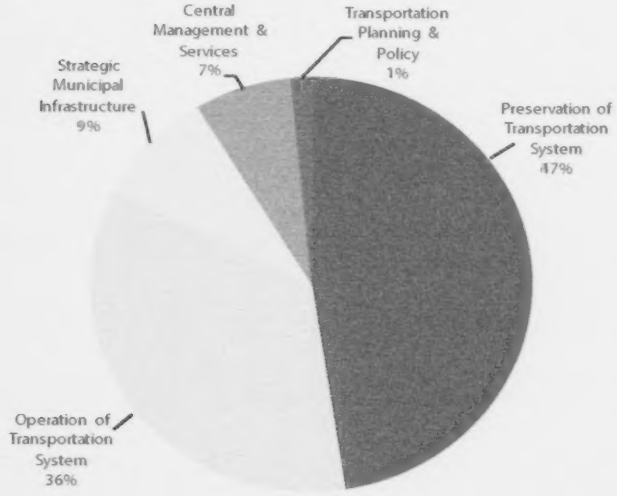
- $105.2 million for preventative maintenance on provincial highways and bridges.
- $116.0 million for capital preservation, including over 600 km of improvements to highways.
- $381.3 million for major projects supporting the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth*:
  - Building twinning and passing lanes to improve traffic flow and increase safety, including:
    - Continuing twinning on Highway 7 from east of Vanscoy to Delisle for 17.5 km;
    - Two sets of passing lanes on Highway 4 between North Battleford and Cochin; and,
    - Two sets of passing lanes on Highway 6 between the Regina Bypass and Corrine.
  - Continue construction on the Warman and Martensville interchanges.
  - Continue planning for corridor improvements on Highways 6 and 39 between Corrine and Estevan.
  - Continue construction on the Regina Bypass project through a public-private partnership (P3) contract.
- $82.3 million for rural highway upgrades to improve accessibility and safety, including $13 million of infrastructure restoration and upgrades as a result of flood damage.
- $61.0 million of capital to replace and rehabilitate bridges and culverts.
- Providing $14.0 million to rural municipalities through the Municipal Roads for the Economy Program to enhance and preserve rural municipal transportation infrastructure.
- Investing $6.7 million through the Urban Highway Connector Program towards capital projects and operations and maintenance in urban municipalities.

Financial Summary

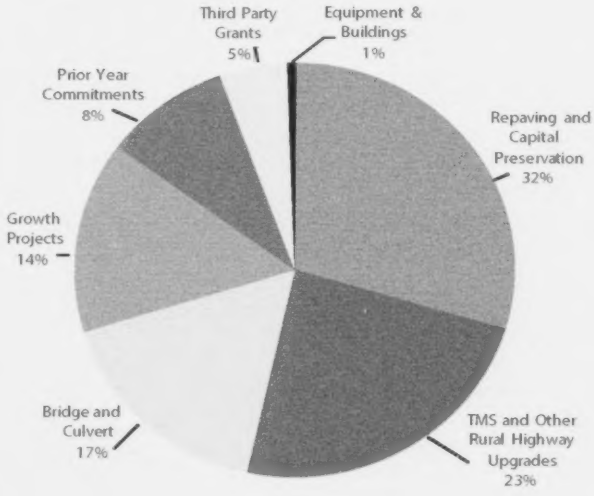
2018-19 Estimates	(in thousands of dollars)
Central Management and Services	$17,914
Strategic Municipal Infrastructure	$22,745
Operation of Transportation System	$90,828
Preservation of Transportation System	$116,759
Transportation Planning and Policy	$3,361
Custom Work Activity	---
Infrastructure and Equipment Capital	$672,882
Total Appropriation	**$924,489**
Capital Asset Acquisitions	($672,882)
Non-Appropriated Expense Adjustment	$189,707
Total Expense	**$441,314**

For more information, see the Budget Estimates at: http://www.saskatchewan.ca/budget

Appropriated Expense Budget


Central Management & Services 7%
Transportation Planning & Policy 1%
Strategic Municipal Infrastructure 9%
Preservation of Transportation System 47%
Operation of Transportation System 36%

Capital Investment in addition to the Regina Bypass


Third Party Grants 5%
Equipment & Buildings 1%
Prior Year Commitments 8%
Repaving and Capital Preservation 32%
Growth Projects 14%
Bridge and Culvert 17%
TMS and Other Rural Highway Upgrades 23%

For More Information

Please visit the Ministry's website at https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/ministries/highways-and-infrastructure